


Barrow-in-Furness

County Borough

1939



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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNES.PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1939.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Ministry as contained in Circular 2067 of the 19th July, 1940, an interim report only is submitted in respect of the work of my Department for the year 1939, as follows:-

In spite of War conditions no section of the work has been suspended. The various schemes for the conduct of Maternity & Child Welfare, (including Clinics, Health Visitors, Maternity Home and the Midwifery service), treatment of Tuberculosis, the Prevention of Blindness, the treatment of Cancer and of Venereal Diseases, and general hospital accommodation for necessitous cases, as described in previous Reports, together with the general administrative measures in respect of the Sanitary condition of the district, the control of infectious diseases, food sampling, meat inspection, the inspection of shipping, the inspection of Factories and Workplaces and Housing, have all proceeded as usual.

Having regard to the fact that the organisation of the Medical Services in connection with National Defence, which involved the setting up of First Aid Posts and Depots, work in connection with the Emergency Hospital Scheme, the registration and training of Volunteers for the Civil Nursing Reserve, the training of sections of the general Public in First Aid and Home Nursing, the establishment and maintenance of a Casualty Bureau, the maintenance of an Ambulance Service, together with the collection and distribution of all necessary equipment required for these services, has also been assigned to my Department, it will be obvious that work has proceeded at full pressure, entailing unceasing vigilance and industry on the part of my Staff.

Regarding the general work of the Department, the following items, mainly in connection with the Maternity & Child Welfare Service, might be specially noted, viz:-

Midwifery Service.

This work, established under the Midwives Act, 1936, has now become stabilised. The provisions of the scheme have become more widely known and the facilities offered are gaining in popularity. Owing to increased bookings it was necessary to appoint an additional Midwife temporarily during part of the year.

Appointment of Obstetric Consultant.

An important step was taken during the year by the appointment, in accordance with the Ministry's recommendation, of an Obstetric Consultant.

The appointment is a joint one with the Lancashire County Council and the Consultant carries out his duties under the general direction of the County Medical Officer and the Medical Officer of Health of the Borough. He has clinical supervision of all cases admitted to the Local Authority's Maternity Home. He is also available for assistance to General Practitioners in cases of abnormality occurring in the area, as well as acting as Consultant at the ante-natal clinics of the Borough. He is also responsible for the conduct of ante-natal and post-natal clinics at the Maternity Home.

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Roose Infirmary - Maternity Unit.

The maternity unit at Roose Public Assistance Infirmary has been modernised, and sterilising plant introduced. The cases dealt with in the Infirmary are those who have specifically requested admission in preference to Risedale Maternity Home, or cases of emergency when no immediate accommodation is available at the Home. The Obstetric Consultant's services are available for all maternity cases admitted to Roose Infirmary.

Food Poisoning Investigations.

During the year two cases died from Aertryche Food Poisoning. Full investigation was carried out by my Department regarding the source of the suspected food, and the Clinical and Bacteriological examinations of contacts. The investigations were made more difficult owing to the delay in the cases being notified to me. Legislation has now been passed whereby all suspected cases of food poisoning are compulsorily notifiable.

My thanks are due to all members of my Staff for their untiring efforts, loyalty and efficiency with which they have carried out the increased work of the Department. I am also indebted to the Chairmen and Members of the Corporation Committees concerned with the Public Health Department, for the courtesy and kindness with which they have considered the various suggestions and recommendations made to them.

A. R. Forrest.

Medical Officer of Health.

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W. J. Jones

Medical Officer of Health.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

PORT SANITARY SURVEY. 1939.

All permanent arrangements, as described in previous reports, for the conduct of Port Sanitary work were continued throughout the year.

TABLE A.

1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT SANITARY DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR 1939.

No. of Ships Inspected.		Number reported to be defective.	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied.	Number of vessels reported as having or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.			
10	509	16	16	n

TABLE B.

X X X X X

TABLE C.

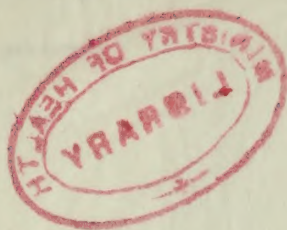
No case of infectious sickness was landed from vessels during 1939.

TABLE D.

No cases of infectious diseases occurring on vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival were reported.

TABLES E. AND F.

No. of Rats:-
(a) Destroyed ... 110
(b) Examined. ... nil
(c) Found to be infected with Plague. ... nil



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TABLE D.

No cases of infectious diseases occurring on vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival were reported.

TABLES E. AND F.

No. of Rats:-

- (a) Destroyed ... 110
- (b) Examined ... 111
- (c) Found to be infected with Plague ... 111

TABLE G.

It was not found necessary to take any measures of Rat Destruction with regard to Vessels arriving from Plague infected ports.

No vessel arrived at the Port either Plague infected or Plague suspected.

No vessels from Plague-infected Ports arrived during the year.

TABLE H.

One Deratization Certificate was issued. 12 Exemption Certificates on Form Port 11 were issued during the year.

DERATIZATION CERTIFICATES AND DERATIZATION EXEMPTION

CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.

No. of Deratization Certificates issued.					No. of Deratization Exemption Certificates issued.	Total Certificates issued.
After fumigation with			After Trapping Poisoning etc.	Total.		
H.C.N.	Sulphur	H.C.N. and Sulphur				
1	-	-	-	1	12	13

TABLE J.

All nuisances and sanitary defects found on the ships were remedied without delay

FOOD INSPECTION.

No foodstuffs arrived at the Port during the year, therefore no action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1939.

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		Total.	After Trapping Poison- ing etc.	After fumigation with	
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13	12	1	-	-	1

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